

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DLOS-07 COA-02 FEA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DEAE-00 IO-14 JUSE-00

SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 SCI-06 OMB-01 EB-11 AGR-20

COME-00 AID-20 NEA-14 IGA-02 DRC-01 /206 W

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R 141012Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4082

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 3682

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR PBOR TU GR

SUBJ: POPPIES/GREEK-TURKEY DISPUTE OVER AEGEAN

REF: (A) ANKARA 3507 (B) STATE 097455

1. AT LUNCHEON ON MAY 11 I HAD A PRIVATE AND DISCOURAGING CON-
VERSATION WITH MFA SEC GEN EREZ ON TWO SUBJECTS.

2. HE INDICATED THAT HE HAD REPORTED USG POSITION RE UNWILLING-
NESS TO PROCEED WITH \$5 MILLION POPPY LOAN PURSUANT TO OUR
CONVERSATION (REFTEL A) AND THAT PRIME MINISTER'S AND FOREIGN
MINISTER'S REACTION WAS, "THIS JUST SHOWS THE KIND OF PRESSURE
THEY ARE PUTTING UPON US." THIS LED TO A RENEWED PRESENTATION
BY ME OF CONGRESSIONAL AND GAO REASONS WHY IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR
US TO MAKE PAYMENTS IN SUPPORT OF AN AGREED UPON TRANSITION
FROM GROWING TO NOT GROWING WHEN TURKS HAD PUT US ON CLEAR
NOTICE THAT THEY LIKELY TO BREAK THEIR END OF BAN AGREEMENT.
THIS IN TURN TRIGGERED A SOMEWHAT EMOTIONAL RESPONSE FROM EREZ ENDING
UP WITH STATEMENT THAT AS FAR AS HE COULD SEE, GOT MIGHT AS WELL
GO AHEAD WITH BAN RECISION "AND GET IT OVER WITH." I SAID IF
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RESPONSIBLE FONOFF OFFICIALS TALK THAT WAY, I WAS CONCERNED INDEED

FOR FUTURE OF OUR RELATIONS, AND I TOOK OCCASION TO UNDERScore AGAIN THE GRAVE CONSEQUENCES WHICH WOULD INEVITABLY ENSUE TO US-TURKISH RELATIONS IF GOT RESCINDS BAN. I EMPHASIZED THAT I DID NOT THINK ANYONE IN GOT VIEWING THIS PROSPECT WITH THE TRUE CONCERN IT MERITED.

2. TURNING TO AEGEAN, EREZ SAID THAT SPEECH BY GREEK PRIME MINISTER ANDROUTSOPOULOS EARLIER IN WEEK, WHILE NO NAMES WERE MENTIONED, WAS OBVIOUSLY A DIRECT CHALLENGE TO TURKEY. IT HAD CAUSED MUCH CONCERN AT HIGHEST LEVELS OF GOT, AND DECISION HAD BEEN TAKEN THAT IT WOULD HAVE TO BE REBUTTED. I ASKED WHY IT NEEDED TO BE REBUTTED. I POINTED OUT THAT REBUTTALS OF THIS KIND ONLY ESCALATED SITUATION. I SAID TURK TOUGHNESS AND POLICY TOWARD AEGEAN WERE BOTH WELL KNOWN AND DID NOT NEED PROPOSED REBUTTAL TO KEEP THEM UNDERSTOOD. SUCH REBUTTAL COULD THEREFORE SERVE NO USEFUL PURPOSE AND WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY ADD MORE HEAT TO AN ALREADY OVERHEATED SITUATION. EREZ TERMINATED CONVERSATION BY SAYING I COULD BE SURE REBUTTAL WOULD BE MADE. HOWEVER, ON MONDAY, MAY 13, I HAD LUNCH WITH GREEK AMBASSADOR WHO HAD JUST LEFT MEETING WITH FONMIN. HE TOLD ME THAT LATTER MADE NO REFERENCE TO ANDROUTSOPOULOS' SPEECH. MACOMBER

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